

**AZ HIPAA Medicaid Consortium (AHMC)**  
**MCO Recommendations**

Item #	Recommendation	Proposed By	Date Opened	Status	AHCCCS Response	Consortium Comments	Date Closed
1	Would like to request that AHCCCS set up a schedule with each healthplan for a specified period of time (two weeks) when the testing will occur for each transaction set.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	AHCCCS will establish a testing schedule for each MCO for each transaction set. We will be developing a formal Trading Partner Testing Plan including roles and responsibilities, problem reporting and testing schedule that will be shared with all MCOs. The Testing Schedule is planned to be completed on 1/15/03 and is dependent on the acquisition of a full-time Test Lead. The testing schedule and status will be posted on the WEB site.	All Consortium members were in agreement. Gary Heller pointed out that for some transactions the two weeks suggested would not be sufficient and the members agreed.	11/22/02
2	It is felt that it is very important that the healthplan have a designated IT resource at AHCCCS during the testing phases.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	The primary IT AHCCCS resource will be the HIPAA Test Lead. We are currently in the process of acquiring this resource and when the person is on board we will update the MCOs with this person's name, email address and phone number. The Test Lead will define a back up person.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
3	It is felt that doing an initial focused testing with one healthplan to start would greatly reduce the amount of time that needs to be spent with subsequent healthplan testing.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	Our current plan is to have a couple of "pilot" MCOs run through the Trading Partner Testing process to work out any "bugs" and to streamline the process for subsequent MCO testing.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
4	For the 834 transaction, Evercare, PHS, UFC would be/could be ready for February, 2003. Testing. Schaller Anderson is unsure at this time.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	The Trading Partner Testing schedule will be developed with input from the MCOs and posted on the WEB site.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
5	Establishing specified weeks for each health plan for each transaction set would accomplish two things: (1) healthplans would know when they need to be ready and (2) AHCCCS can plan accordingly to have the correct resources available to each healthplan as they test.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	We agree. This was addressed in the response to Item # 1.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02

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6	Having a schedule for all transaction sets for the period of February 2003 through September 2003 would also identify where there maybe not be adequate resources or time to get adequate testing completed by October, 2003. For Enrollment and Capitation which are business critical functions, this needs to have very careful planning. Reinsurance being sent as an 835 would also pose a critical issue for plan operations if these were delayed.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	We agree. This was addressed in the response to Item # 1.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
7	The group would like to request that the Consortium meetings be set up monthly for the next year. This will allow health plan staff to better plan and it will ensure that regular communication is occurring between AHCCCS and the health plans. If meetings are going to be scheduled when the work is done, it allows too much time to pass without progress being made on critical issues.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	The Consortium meetings monthly have been scheduled monthly, beginning with January 2003. Consortium members will be advised of the dates, times and locations. This information will be published on the WEB site within the next week.	All Consortium members were in agreement. Gary Heller committed to track, review and respond to any MCO recommendations received at the next planned Consortium Meeting.	11/22/02
8	It is also being recommended that if Tina is unable to attend, that there is a designated back up for her that will be able to run the meetings and make sure progress is being made on issues.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	AHCCCS will ensure that all meetings take place as scheduled. In the event that Tina is unable to lead the meeting, then Geoff Foden will lead the meeting as the back up. Geoff will be familiar with the agenda and will be prepared to discuss all materials.	All Consortium members were in agreement. Additionally, Gary Heller mentioned that the goal will be to post the Agenda and any presentation materials on the WEB site one week before the meeting.	11/22/02
9	Website needs to be operationalized ASAP. All the transaction documents need to be on the website so plans are sure they are working with the most current documents, especially in light of the fact that the same people are not able to attend all the meetings at AHCCCS. If particular documents are particularly large and would create difficulty in downloading, that should be so noted on the website and a way for the health plan to get the document should be made known right on the website.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	The AHCCCS HIPAA website was implemented on Tuesday, November 19 <sup>th</sup> and is accessible from the AHCCCS Home Page. The URL is <a href="http://www.ahcccs.state.az.us">http://www.ahcccs.state.az.us</a>	All Consortium members were in agreement. It was requested that the AHCCCS transaction mapping documents be added to the WEB site. Also, Gary Heller discussed the process for submitting recommendations or asking questions via the WEB site.	11/22/02

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10	As a group, we would like to better understand what Geoff Foden's role is as the project manager. Does that mean that we should be expecting regular communication from him. Will he be handling issues/concerns raised by the health plans as to the overall progress of HIPAA Transaction implementation?	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	Geoff Foden is the AHCCCS Project Manager and responsible for the project schedule and coordination of all AHCCCS resources to successfully complete the HIPAA Project on schedule. The MCOs will not receive regular communication from him as there are other defined points of contact. Consortium Meetings are chaired by Tina McClung and all communication related to the HIPAA Project in general including recommendations, questions, and issues should be directed to her. All communication regarding the Trading Partner Testing schedule and testing status <u>should be directed to the Test Lead.</u>	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
11	When and how is the Consulting group working on the AHCCCS translator going to interface with the health plans?	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	We are in the process of procuring a translator and consulting services for the initial set up and training of the translator software. We do not understand the need for the consulting group to interface with the MCOs.	This item was clarified in the meeting to mean that MCOs would not contact the translator consulting group directly but through consortium meetings could ask questions or seek help if a problem was found in the translator software. All members were in agreement with this clarification.	11/22/02
12	For the Encounter Workgroup meetings it appears at the current pace we will need to be meeting for significantly longer than 4 weeks, so it is requested that meetings be scheduled out at this time for the rest of the calendar year, again so everyone can plan accordingly to be present.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	We agree. Currently the Encounter Work Groups are scheduled through December 17, 2002. At that time we will gauge the need for this group to meet on an Ad Hoc basis to address new issues and concerns regarding testing and implementation.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
13	This group would like to recommend that as part of the development of the Encounter transaction sets, that the current edits be reviewed for their purpose/value. Ensure that we do not duplicate some of the edit issues that we have now when we move to the 837 transactions.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	We will add this item to our Encounter Work Group Agenda. We do, however, recommend that this item be addressed after all of the HIPAA Transaction requirements have been developed. This will allow us to see the "big picture", i.e., HIPAA Translator edits and encounter processing cycle edits, and to address them at the same time.	All Consortium members were in agreement.	11/22/02
14	The members of this group would like to be added to the emails from Lydia Ruiz on the changes to codes, system set up. University Family Care is currently receiving these e mails.	PHS/Mercy Care/ UFC/ Evercare	11/15/02	Closed	This is not a problem. Lydia will need the name and email address of anyone wanting to receive these updates.	Brent Ratterree mentioned that someone from each MCO should be already receiving this information. However, if anyone wanted to be added to the list they could contact Brent directly and he would add them.	11/22/02